

Airport Project Updates

Airport Master Plan Public Meetings

Yuma International Airport invited members of the community to participate in Public Advisory Committee Meetings and an Open House to discuss and help identify future development interests, air traffic activity, as well as forecast commercial service demands and business development opportunities. If you'd like to learn more, please visit www.yumairportmasterplan.com to see the most current planning documents.



Baggage Carousel Replacement

Design of a new baggage carousel for Yuma International Airport is underway. The new equipment will be quieter, feature an added measure of safety and the new configuration will have additional capacity that will help passengers collect their baggage after arriving. Installation is anticipated to begin late November and will take a couple of weeks to complete.

GA Apron Rehabilitation

Yuma International Airport held a kickoff meeting to design the rehabilitation of approximately 48,700 SY of existing general aviation aprons by repairing or replacing the deteriorated asphalt and concrete sections. The design project is funded by the FAA and ADOT. The design will be complete by early 2021.

Fall 2020



Special Message from Airport Director Gladys Brown

On behalf of Yuma International Airport, I want to take a moment to thank our travelers and airport tenants for their continued patience, dedication and support over the past six months as our nation and the travel industry continue to navigate through COVID-19. The airport team continues to work tirelessly to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all while at the same time providing superior customer service.

I'd like to take a moment to draw special attention to Mr. Gerald Hinkle, Jr., the airport's Chief Financial Officer who recently celebrated his 20th work anniversary with Yuma International Airport. "Junior", as he prefers to be called, is one of our key team members and plays several important roles in our leases, grants and finances. Junior is a family man, loves building and racing Baja off-road and football. The team truly appreciates his many years serving our Airport.

Gladys

YUMA AIRPORT AVIATOR UPDATES

Civil Air Patrol Squadron 508

Two cadet officers from the Yuma 508 CAP squadron provided a presentation during an online Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education workshop sponsored by the Arizona Wing of the Civil Air Patrol.

Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Joey Burkart discussed the important role of aerospace education in cadet promotions at all levels of the cadet program. He explained the importance of aerospace reading assignments and associated testing based on the monograph Journey of Flight that senior members must complete to earn their Yeager Award. He shared prior to joining the Civil Air Patrol he had not thought of pursuing a profession in the aerospace field. Burkart explained that his interest in an aerospace career has been inspired by his CAP cadet experiences.

Cadet Captain Tristan Obregon shared his personal experiences in Civil Air Patrol and how aerospace education has enhanced his appreciation of the cadet program. He began his cadet experience with a natural interest in becoming a pilot but he knew little about the field. Flights with the Young Eagle program and O-flights in CAP helped provide focus for that interest. He has been a cadet leader of the 508 model rocketry program. He has participated in field trips to both the USS Midway Museum and the Palm Springs Air Museum. Cadet Obregon plans a career in military aviation.



Cadet 2nd Lt. Burkart



Cadet Captain Obregon

Local Pilots

Local pilots Joe Fisher and Tim Frank, along with their wives, were invited to participate and fly in an historic formation to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II.

The couples traveled to the island of Oahu, Hawaii bringing along Joe Fisher's North American T-6 Texan 1954 vintage aircraft that Joe re-built after it was scrapped about 50 years ago.

Joe shared "There are very few World War II veterans that are left and this is the last time we may have to honor those who died and honor those who are still with us." Joe continued "What Americans need to realize is freedom isn't free, and there are a lot of men and women that sacrifice their time and their lives for our freedom."

Frank shared he was honored to be a part of this 75th commemoration and celebratory day in history because the war has important meaning to his family.

"My father was a World War II vet and he actually fought in the Pacific, so an opportunity to come and celebrate the victory over Japan here in Hawaii was an opportunity that I certainly wouldn't pass up."



A NEW RUNWAY FOR SOMERTON AIRPORT

Local aviators are celebrating as construction of a newly paved runway at Somerton Airport is complete. Having a paved runway has been a lifelong dream of the airport's owner, Eric Saltzer and his late father, Charles Saltzer.

Somerton Airport is privately owned by the Saltzer Family Trust who purchased it in 2002. For decades Charles Saltzer managed the airport and made improvements including construction of hangars, runway lighting, fuel services along with picnic and camping areas for use by local and transient aviators. Throughout his ownership Charles also advocated for a paved runway, however because the airport is privately owned, it does not qualify for state or federal grant funding.

In 2013 the Yuma County Airport Authority (YCAA) agreed to provide funding to pave the main runway at Somerton Airport, contingent upon funds being available, in exchange for a recorded easement by the Saltzer Family Trust, guaranteeing Public Use of Somerton Airport. On June 11, 2013 such an easement was created and recorded as agreed however, due to the recession of 2012, funding was not available.

Yuma International Airport Director, Gladys Brown shared "Completion of this project has always been important to the YCAA as it helps to promote and foster civil aviation in Yuma County. In the summer of 2019, the YCAA readdressed the subject and subsequently authorized the expenditure of approximately \$22,000 from the Airport's FY19 budget for the runway's design. In April 2020, the YCAA committed to reimbursing the Saltzer Family Trust two-thirds of the cost to pave the runway."

During preparation for the asphalt to be laid, Eric, along with friends and family, respected his father's wishes and interred his father's ashes into the runway subsurface. Longtime friend and contractor, Don Peterson laid the first strip of asphalt onto the runway personally. Once the runway was paved and properly marked, Eric Saltzer (who is also a pilot) took a couple of family members up for the first flight in his father's 1946 Taylorcraft to celebrate its completion, and landed safely on the newly paved surface.

The Saltzer Family Trust is thankful and proud to have partnered with the Yuma County Airport Authority to make this dream a reality in an effort to promote and foster general aviation far into the future.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!



Brewers Restaurant and Sports Bar has re-opened the Skybox (located on the second floor) Thursday through Mondays so you can catch your favorite sports games! Come on in and remember, Brewers validates your parking with purchase!



Advertising Opportunities Available

Yuma International Airport is a great location to advertise your business and proudly offers a variety of static and wall-wrap advertising space throughout the airport terminal. Please give us a call at (928) 726-5882 for a tour of available locations to promote your business!

Long Term Parking Discounts

Going away on a long vacation or business trip, or do you travel frequently? In appreciation of our frequent flyers and guests, Yuma International Airport offers long term parking discounts by the month or year so you can come and go and save money! Stop by the Airport's Admin Office on the second floor and get your discounted parking pass today!

1 month parking = \$125.00
3 month parking = \$300.00
6 month parking = \$650.00
12 month parking = \$900.00



CAP Food Drive for Food Bank

Congratulations to Yuma Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron 508 who sponsored a food drive for the Yuma Community Food Bank during the summer. Over 346 pounds of non-perishable items were collected, as well as \$900 in cash donations from the public and the airport.



Important Event Dates:

11/10 – YCAA Board of Directors Meeting at 4:00 PM
11/11 – Veteran's Day – Administration offices closed
11/21 – GA Pilot Safety Training from 9:30AM-12:00PM in Airport Large Conference Room (Tentative)
11/20-11/2 – Colorado River Crossing Balloon Festival (Saturday launch at dawn from West Wetlands, evening drive thru glow at Yuma Civic Center)
11/26 & 27 – Thanksgiving – Admin offices closed
12/8 – YCAA Volunteer Appreciation and Board of Directors Meeting at 2:30 PM
12/10 – General Aviation Social from 5:30-7:00 at Brewers Skybox (Tentative)
12/24 – Christmas Eve – Admin offices close at noon
12/25 – Christmas Day – Administration offices closed
12/31 – New Year's Eve – Admin offices close at noon
01/01/21 – New Year's Day – Admin offices closed
01/18/21 – Martin Luther King's Birthday – Admin offices closed